

RABBI AARON Editor, Torah Tidbits GOLDSCHEIDER

The month of Elul is a time we focus closely on our personal conduct and seek to improve in the area of avodat Hashem. Elul is also singular in that we remember two remarkable souls whose yahrzeits are observed during these days. Especially at this time we strive to emulate their ways.

Two Kohanim Gedolim Left Us In Elul

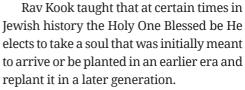
ollowing the death of the Chafetz Chaim, Rav Avraham Yitzchak HaKohen Kook eulogized the

holy sage by citing the Talmudic passage: "God saw that righteous people are a few in this world and therefore planted them (*sh'talan*) in each and every generation" (*Yoma* 38b).

ָרָאָה הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוֹךְ הוֹא שֶׁצַדִּיקִים מוּעָטִין,

עַמַד וֹשְׁתָלֶן בְּכָל דוֹר וָדוֹר

Rav Kook explained that the term *sh'talan* in this context should be interpreted not 'to plant' but rather '*to replant'*; as in a sapling or a tree which was uprooted from one patch of earth and **replanted** (*shatal*) in another field.



The personage of the Chafetz Chaim was a prime example of this astonishing circumstance. His sparkling soul was *replanted* from a bygone era. He was certainly not of this era! God saw fit to transplant the Chafetz Chaim's soul in a generation that was in need of his splendor and soaring erudition (*Bein Shnei Kohanim Gedolim*, Menachem Kapinski, p.11).

This same proposition can be applied to the lofty personage of Palestine's first Chief Rabbi, Rav Kook. He was a luminary from another time, from another generation; a soul replanted in the 20th century. Prov-

idence saw to it that his voice be heard in our day.

These two remarkable Kohanim Gedolim, who shared a close relationship with one another, advanced the distinctive conviction that the Jewish nation today has entered a decisive point in the process toward the final Redemption.

Remarkably, Chafetz Chaim and Rav Kook were both the biological descendants and true disciples of Aaron the High Priest. Their holy *neshamot* were





summoned to the upper world during the days of Elul.

Yahrzeit of Rav Avraham Yitzchak HaKohen Kook zt"l: 3 Elul (1935)

Yahrzeit of the Chafetz Chaim, Ray Yisrael Meir HaKohen Kagan zt"l: 24 Elul (1933). ■



Be'er Tziporah a"h -Bottled Water Gemach



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Yoni thanks Hashem for having the opportunity of having Tziporah in his life, to learn of her caring, patience and happiness, to overcome her challenges. May Tziporah's Neshama be a light onto the world, in a time of darkness, and may her Neshama shine to Gan Eden. Yoni misses Tziporah with tears in his eyes, as Hashem gave him a gift, a crown jewel, now he returns her to Hashem. With thanks and Toda. Love, Yoni

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